

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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R 031538Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5555
INFO USLIAISON OFFICE PEKING
USNMR SHAPE
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1558

SHAPE FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652/GDS
TAGS: PEPR, CH, NO, UR
SUBJ: NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO CHINA

1. FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND, ON THE OCCASION OF A BRIEFING ON ANOTHER MATTER, PROVIDED SOME COMMENTARY ON HIS CHINA VISIT TO THE FRENCH, UK, FRG AND US. AMBASSADORS AND CHARES. FULL MEMCON BEING POUCHED.

2. AMONG THE POINTS THAT FRYDENLUND STRESSED WAS THE SCOPE-- FAR LARGER THAN HE HAD IMAGINED--OF THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE PRESENT REGIME AND THE "GANG OF FOUR". FRYDENLUND SAID THAT HIS HOST'S DESCRIPTION OF THE STRUGGLE WAS THAT OF A NEAR CIVIL WAR. THE MINISTER SAID THAT TENG TOLD THE NOR- WEGIANS THAT THE STRUGGLE HAD DELAYED THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA TEN TO TWELVE YEARS.

3. FRYDENLUND NOTED THAT, SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN, THE
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SOVIET AMBASSADOR CALLED TO SAY THAT HE HAD AN URGENT MESSAGE. IN A MEETING ON APRIL 1, THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT ANY ACTION ON THE PART OF NORWAY WHICH COULD STRENGTHEN THE MILITARY POWER OF CHINA WOULD BE VIEWED BY THE USSR AS AN UNFRIENDLY ACT.

T. FRYDENLUND REPLIED TO THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR THAT IT HAD

BEEN HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE CHINESE DO, IN FACT, HOPE TO
UNITE ALL FACTIONS AGAINST THE USSR. HE POINTED OUT THAT
SOVIET ACTIONS SUCH AS THEIR PRESENT INTERVENTION ON THE
HORN OF AFRICA COULD HELP THE CHINESE TO ACHIEVE THIS
RESULT. HE TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE AFRICANS WHOM THE
GON IS IN CONTACT WITH WERE VERY CONCERNED IN THIS REGARD AS
WAS THE SHAH OF IRAN, WITH WHOM FRYDENLUND HAD SPOKEN EARLIER.
THE MINISTER SUMMARIZED BY STATING THAT THE SOVIETS WERE
NOT TOO HAPPY ABOUT HIS CHINA VISIT.

6. IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH THE US CHARGE, FRYDENLUND
SAID THAT, IN HIS PEKING DISCUSSION OF US-CHINESE RELATIONS,
HE HAD GAINED THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PRC WOULD NOT OBJECT
TO, AND MIGHT EVEN SEE SOME ADVANTAGE IN SOME RESIDUAL
US PRESENCE ON TAIWAN.
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